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TOWN OF VERNON

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Election Division Registrars of Voters Election Administrators

Senator Musto, Representative Julita & Members of the GAE

PSB 774 AAC the Dissemination of information concerning voter rights to persons being released from department of corrections.

My Name is Judith Beaudreau; I am an Election Administrator / Registrar of Voters for the Town of Vernon, CT. I would like to thank Senator Harp and Representative Walker for proposing this important missing part of voting rights that seemed to have been overlooked. I would like to support this bill and suggest that you might request that the Election Office also be required to send the released person the voter information. As a Registrar of Voters the Secretary of the State provides each Election Office with all of the incarceration and also releases. At this time my office does do outreach to them by providing a letter and enclosing a voter registration card. There have been several that have taken advantage and reregistered on their release. Many have called and asked if it was true that they could register to vote. They are unaware of this and when they find out they can actually re-register it seems to be lift in their spirits. Below is a sample letter that I send to them.

Dear Former Vernon Resident:

Our Office has been informed by the Judicial Department that you recently have been released from incarceration.

We have noticed that you are not on our active list of voters at this time. If you would like to register, this can be done by mail, in person, or on line. We have enclosed a mail-in voter registration card for your use. If you are eligible to be a registered voter and would like to register, please fill out the card completely and return it to our office. If you are a US Citizen, at least 18 years of age and your debt to society has been met than you are eligible to register or re-register to vote.

You can visit our web site at www.vernonelections.org and register there. You can find some interesting information about voting and our elections here in Vernon, on our web site.

If we can be of any assistance, please call our office at 860-896-2376

If we are not in please leave a message on our voice mail system and we will get back to you as soon as we are available.

Sincerely, Vernon Registrar of Voters Elections Department